

# Watson Roars At U. S. Major He's Insulted

## Army Officer at Hearing on Greely Charges Offended Him "by Mean Looks," He Declares in Rage

Washes his fist at Cocheu

Stirs such an uproar that military witnesses are dismissed by senators

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Proceedings before the Senate special committee which is investigating the charges of army hangings, shootings and brutalities were thrown into turmoil today when Senator Tom Watson, of Georgia, outbursts of the charges, threatened to "slap the face" of Major G. W. Cocheu, of the General Staff.

Senator Watson, waving his arms, shouting with his long hair tossing, his face pale, walked up close to the officer, thrust his fist toward his face and, calling Major Cocheu a "bull-headed brute," declared he (Watson) was being "insulted with looks."

Only the coolness and discipline of the officer, a veteran of twenty-three years experience, prevented a personal encounter and a scene of violence. As it was Major Cocheu looked Senator Watson quietly in the eye, but did not move a muscle or say a word, while the wrath of the Georgia Senator found expression in bitter abuse of the officer and denunciation of the committee for its unfairness.

Excitement was caused in the committee room by Senator Watson's outburst. Spectators were thrown into a near panic and the members of the committee, who were deeply chagrined and perturbed at the scene, did their best to restore order and calm the heated atmosphere.

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Members of the committee said later they seemed to be "insulted" by Senator Watson's outburst as much as the officer. Watson's outburst was not in keeping with the dignity of the Senate, they purposed to see the inquiry through on its merits, and they would not be intimidated by the outburst of an overman, Democrat, of North Carolina, and Willis, of Ohio, Republican, after the session ended shook hands with Major Cocheu and commended him highly for keeping his head.

At no stage of the proceedings in the committee room had any of the army officers spoken. The reiterated complaint that Senator Watson was being "insulted with looks" was taken up by Senator Shields, of Tennessee, Democrat, a former judge of many years' experience, who was seated to the right of the speaker. Senator Brandegee, of Connecticut, Democrat, of North Carolina, and Willis, of Ohio, Republican, after the session ended shook hands with Major Cocheu and commended him highly for keeping his head.

Without warning Senator Watson roared that he was being "insulted with looks" and he waved his arms as if he were slapping the face of the officer. "I've been insulted. Make that army bulldozer shut his eyes off me or I'll slap him in the face," he yelled. "I'm walking back and forth between the committee table and Cocheu. Watson repeatedly shouted he was being "insulted with looks."

# Senator France Accused Over Russian Plea

## Appeal for Recognition of Soviet Regime Prompted by Self-Interest, Charge Made by Capt. W. B. Estes

### Business Deal Alleged

### Senator Issues Denial and Declares He Has No Interest in Concern Named

Senator Joseph I. France, of Maryland, was directly charged yesterday with using his public position to bring about recognition of the Soviet government of Russia for the purpose of furthering an industrial concern in which he is alleged to be interested.

Senator France, who was a guest last night at a dinner of the Real Estate League of New Jersey at the Robert Treat Hotel, in Newark, declared that the charge was "absolutely false," as were most statements made nowadays concerning Russia.

The accusation was made by Captain William B. Estes, formerly of the United States Military Intelligence Service, who recently was released from a Russian jail. Senator France was in Russia at the time Estes and other Americans were being held in a Moscow prison by the Soviet authorities. The charges were made in an address before the National Civic Federation at a special meeting in the Waldorf Astoria.

### Charges by Captain Estes

In broaching the subject Captain Estes said: "I make these charges with the full knowledge of the responsibility that I incur. I make them after full investigation. Senator France quoted the Soviet authorities when he accused me of being a spy for the Red Cross in Reval, Estonia, with having fomented the Kronstadt rebellion, and I now quote the same authority against Senator France."

He then declared that Senator France was interested in the Barbaroff Engineering Company, which he said had contracts with the Soviet government of Russia amounting to more than \$8,000,000. He charged that Senator France was interested in campaign contributions for recognition of the Soviet government or the establishment of trade relations between Russia and this country. He also charged that Senator France was interested in the value of these alleged contracts.

Senator France issued a denial and declared that he had no interest in the concern named. He said that he had no interest in the Barbaroff Engineering Company, which he said had contracts with the Soviet government of Russia amounting to more than \$8,000,000. He charged that Senator France was interested in campaign contributions for recognition of the Soviet government or the establishment of trade relations between Russia and this country.

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# Mitchell Goes to Europe On Air Service Mission

## General on Return From Trip Which Starts To-day Will Have Same Assignment

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Brigadier General William Mitchell, assistant chief of the Army Air Service, will sail to-morrow for Europe to study conditions in general and with particular reference to the development of aeroplanes in England, France, Italy and Germany.

Official announcement of the General's mission, made public to-night by the War Department, stated that the visit had been in contemplation for several months and was not prompted by any motive for the removal of General Mitchell from his present office in Washington, "despite unauthenticated reports" given circulation in some quarters that the General would be relieved.

The assistant chief of Army Air Service, it was said officially, would sail from New York to-morrow in his official capacity and would return to his same assignment here at the expiration of his temporary duty in Europe.

It was emphatically stated that there had been no disagreement between Major General Patrick, chief of the Army Air Service, and his assistant. Reports to the contrary were declared to be entirely without foundation in fact.

Comptroller Full of Verbal Action, but Board Gives Decision to Opponent at End of Spirited Battle

### Cannot Tell Truth for 30 Seconds" Gets Rise From Aldermanic President

The board of Estimate put on its usual vaudeville act yesterday, with Comptroller Charles L. Craig and F. H. La Guardia, President of the Board of Aldermen, in the leading parts. It was the first time since Election Day, November 8, that the Comptroller and the Aldermanic President had confronted each other at a board meeting. No heads were broken, but the chamber echoed with the crack of high caliber verbal ammunition.

### Police Still Needed As Guards in Milk Strike, Says Lahey

### Chief Inspector Declares He Cannot Remove Them, in Testifying at Hearing Conducted by Aldermen

In testifying yesterday before the committee of Aldermen appointed to investigate the milk workers' strike, Chief Inspector of Police William J. Lahey refused to remove policemen from milk wagons until such time as he received reports from his subordinates which, in his opinion, would warrant such action.

The chief inspector read reports showing that fourteen assaults on milk company employees had been committed since Monday, and said there would be greatly increased disorder should the police be removed at this time.

# Craig Loses to La Guardia in Estimate Bout

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### La Guardia Hits Back

The remarks of the Comptroller attracted the attention of the Aldermanic President.

### Ludendorff Testifies at Trial of Revolutionists

### Admits Conferences in Kapp Home, but Insists They Were Not Important

LEIPZIG, Dec. 9.—(By The Associated Press.) General Ludendorff appeared as a witness to-day in the high treason proceedings against former Minister of Foreign Affairs von Jagow and others in connection with the revolt of March, 1920.

### Loses Ship, Wins \$3,037 For Being Without Job

### British-American Tribunal on Claims Makes Allowance for Seizure as Act of Grace

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(By The Associated Press.) A recommendation novel in the history of international arbitration was made to-day by the American and British claims tribunal in disposing of the case of an American fishing schooner David J. Adams, which was seized in the territorial waters of Canada many years ago, and declared forfeited to the British Crown.

### Wrestler Held in Wall Street Plot To Be Freed

### Detectives Convicted Bulgarian Arrested in Omaha Did Not Drive Bomb Wagon

OMAHA, Dec. 9.—Mike Stine, a Bulgarian wrestler with long black hair, who travels with a show troupe, was arrested by the Omaha police last night on the strength of a anonymous note intimating that Stine had driven the dynamite wagon in the Wall Street explosion a year ago.

### State Bonus Bill Predicted

### Machold Says Amendment Will Be Passed at Albany

H. Edmund Machold, speaker of the Assembly, last night at the Republican State Committee headquarters said the Legislature this winter doubtless would pass a constitutional amendment providing for a bonus for the World War soldiers.

# Lenine Debates Calling Constituent Assembly

RIGA, Dec. 9.—Semi-official Moscow advices indicate that convocation of the Constituent Assembly is a possible, though not probable, outgrowth of the Soviet Congress. If he finds it absolutely necessary to improve Russia's foreign and economic relations, the Russian Soviet Premier, Lenine, is said to be ready to call the Assembly, in which he feels certain he can maintain control.

Up to the present, however, Lenine has felt that the reconstruction prospects are sufficiently bright.

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### Meletios, Exiled in New York. Elected Head of Greek Church

A cablegram received yesterday by Ecumenical Church authorities from Constantinople announced the election of Meletios, exiled Metropolitan of Athens, now in New York, to the office of Ecumenical Patriarch, or supreme head of the Greek Orthodox Church.

# Power of Rail Labor Board Put To Test in Court

## Pennsylvania Road Obtains Writ Which Prohibits the Handing Down of Decision in Shop Men's Case

### Action Is "Welcomed"

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—(By The Associated Press.)—Buffeted by the criticism of both railroads and railway workers for more than a year and a half, the United States Railroad Labor Board finally was haled into Federal Court to-day, when it was made defendant in an injunction suit brought by the Pennsylvania Railroad, which obtained a temporary order from Judge K. M. Landis restraining the board from handing down a decision against the members of a shopmen's controversy.

Members of the board said they "welcomed the suit" as a means of settling many perplexing questions which have been the subject of many three-cornered fights between the transportation lines, the employees and the board. Charged by the transportation act with settling railroad difficulties, the board has no legal power of enforcing its orders, and several roads have disputed the extent of the board's jurisdiction.

Hearing on a permanent order will be held before Judge Landis to-morrow. The railroad's petition is based on two allegations—that the board has jurisdiction only in cases over which a disagreement has arisen, and that the board has exceeded its powers in prescribing rules for the selection of employee representatives in negotiations with the carriers.

### Authority Challenged

Today's injunction has the effect of holding up a decision on the Pennsylvania's citation before the Labor Board, October 29, when the road was summoned to show cause why it should not be declared in violation of the board's orders. C. B. Heisterman, general counsel, and E. H. Senneff, general solicitor, made no defense of the road's action, confining their argument to contentions that the board had acted without its authority. The same contentions were made by the road's attorneys in the petition to-day.

The controversy arose over the road's disregard of an order from the board to hold an election to name employee representatives for negotiation of shop rules with the carrier. A previous election was declared void and the new election was to give opportunity for the election of System Federation members of the union organization affiliated with the American Federation, as a unit to represent the employees.

The road had refused to recognize the federation as representative of the employees, although not objecting to members of the union serving as negotiators, if elected as individuals. When the time limit had expired and the new election was not held, the road was summoned before the board and it was expected that the board would publish a decision that the carrier had violated its rulings.

### All Orders Imperiled

The carrier's bill asked an injunction restraining the Labor Board and its individual members from prescribing any regulation relating to rules, working conditions or wages without having first acquired jurisdiction thereof as provided in the transportation act from assuming to dictate the procedure by which employee representatives to negotiations shall be selected, from requiring carriers to hold conferences with their employees, from holding that plaintiff must conduct elections to determine who shall represent its employees, from promulgating principles to control the carriers' employees and subordinate officials in selecting representatives for conferences, from assuming to determine who are eligible to represent the employees in conferences, from dictating procedure to govern selection of representatives to negotiations with the employees. The Pennsylvania also asked that the board be prohibited from acting in a case where conferences, as provided in the transportation act, have not been held, as in the present instance. The road also asked that the board be restrained from enforcing all previous decisions in the case. If granted this would open the way to nullification of any or all board orders by a Federal court, it is said.

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